### INJURY PREVENTION STARTS AT HOME



Many childhood injuries are predictable and

# You can protect yourself and your family by taking action to prevent injuries at home!

### You Can Prevent Burns at Home

- Keep matches and lighters out of reach of children
- Install and maintain a smoke alarm (Remember to change the batteries)
- Cover electrical outlets
- Turn pan handles on the stove inward and use back burners when cooking
- Set the hot water heater to 120 degrees F or less (Ask a friend or your landlord if you need help)
- Test bath water temperature before putting your child in it

### You Can Prevent Falls at Home

- Watch your child CONSTANTLY when they are in the bathroom
- Install window guards on upper windows
- Use stair gates at the top and bottom of stairs
- Always use the safety latch in your child's chair or strollers

### **You Can Prevent Poisonings at Home**

- Keep all medicines and cleaning supplies in containers with safety caps and store them in a locked cabinet
- Buy and install a Carbon Monoxide (CO) detector in your home to save your child from CO Poisoning
- Act fast if you think your child has been poisoned!
   Call the Poison Control Centers 1-800-222-1222

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### **You Can Prevent Choking at Home**

- Don't let children put small things in their mouths
- Toys, household items, and food can all be choking hazards
- Teach your child to chew his or her food fully before swallowing
- Choose the foods you feed your child carefully for example: popcorn, hard candy, nuts, hot dogs, grapes and avoid fish with bones

### **You Can Prevent Drowning at Home**

- Never leave your child unattended in a bathtub, bathroom, pool or even near a bucket
- Install lid locks on all toilets and keep the lid closed
- Never leave a child alone around water
- Empty buckets after each use

### **You Can Prevent Suffocation at Home**

- Keep plastic shopping bags and trash bags away from your child
- Keep toy chests, car trunks, and washer/dryer doors closed when not in use
- Don't put pillows, blankets, bumpers, or toys in crib these things can sometimes keep a baby from breathing
- Place babies to sleep on their backs

## INJURY

The #1 killer of children in the United States.

### **Fall**

Falling is part of learning.
Use safety gates and create fall-safe environments.

### Fire/Burn

There are many places in the home where children can get burned. Keep children away from hot ovens and stoves.

### **Motor Vehicle**

Always use child safety seats. They protect your child from injury.

**Drowning** 

Young children love water.
The best way to keep children safe is to watch them at all times.

### **Poisoning**

Young children want to touch, taste and smell the things around them. Keep chemicals out of the reach of children.

### **Suffocation**

Many things can cause a child to stop breathing. Learn about safe sleeping choking hazards.

### Remember: Injury Prevention Starts At Home!

Resource: CDC Vital Signs

http://www.cdc.gov/VitalSigns/ChildInjury/infographic.html?s\_cid=bb-vitalsigns-123

School readiness begins with health!



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Early Childhood Health and Wellness